

DENVER CITY COUNCIL



Proclamation No. 25-0605

A Proclamation Formally Recognizing National Youth Violence Prevention Week

WHEREAS, National Youth Violence Prevention Week is April 25, 2025 to May 2, 2025, and an average of 700 young people under the age of 25 are directly affected by gun violence annually in Denver; and

WHEREAS, firearm-related violence is now the leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States—surpassing car accidents, cancer, and all other causes—and the harm it inflicts is not evenly distributed. It radiates in concentric circles, compounding trauma across families, neighborhoods, and generations; and

WHEREAS, youth violence is not random. It's a preventable, communicable disease. It's the predictable outcome of generations of disinvestment, racialized poverty, easy access to firearms, and systems more interested in punishment than prevention; and

WHEREAS, the young people of Denver are not collateral damage, background noise, or statistics to be managed. They are the heart and soul of this city—and every single one of them deserves to live, grow, and lead without having to live in fear of bullets or burying friends; and

WHEREAS, National Youth Violence Prevention Week is more than a calendar event—it's a call to organize, to strategize, and to mobilize. We don't need more awareness. We need investment. We need courage. We need action; and

WHEREAS, across Denver, there are committed school and community safety prevention professionals, violence interrupters, outreach workers, community members and most importantly, youth leaders who don't wait for permission to save lives. They show up—every day—armed with love, truth, and grit.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council formally recognizes April 28, 2025 to May 2, 2025 as National Youth Violence Prevention Week in the City and County of Denver and calls on every resident, policymaker, and institution to take action to their fullest capacity to end youth violence in Denver.

Section 2. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Youth Violence Prevention Center - Denver Game Changers.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 28, 2025

PRESIDENT

